

## What It's Doing to Us

## The End

By Nicholas Von Hoffman  
Times-Post Service

## Washington

We Americans are mixed up in so many killings, it's not easy to separate out the routine hits from the important ones.

Anybody with half a brain, however, can see that the offing of Fred Hampton, chairman of the Illinois Black Panther party, by the forces of law and order was the most significant rub-out of 1969, a year that is making a like calendar effort to equal the carnage of 1968.

Until the gunsel gave it to Hampton in his bed, there had been two liberation movements in the black American world. There had been the one we liberal white people called "responsible" and "moderate," and the other which we spoke of as "political," "radical" and "irresponsible."

## "It's over."

Open Park David Abernathy wouldn't have been caught within miles of a Black Panther. The other "responsible" Fred Hampton had been killed and spoke his last agonies over the phone to his wife.

Most congressmen of the 116th could fidget when Fred Hampton's name came up at all, and at the front of the House he called off.

## PANTHER

This is going to confuse white people who've been told that the Panther is a predatory carnivore in a land of herbivorous ungulates. To us whites, Panthers are Communists, murderers and racists; we believe Panthers are very dangerous people who must be disarmed immediately at all costs.

But the situation created

ey for that end if the gunsel getting justice or revenge from these white courts is a very iffy proposition.

The white culture of mechanisms of justice in this country has been notably bad in its job of keeping important Black leaders alive.

Dr. Martin Luther King, murdered in Memphis, Tennessee, was the most famous of the four Black Panthers killed or tortured to death: Chairman Fred Hampton, Michael Cleland, Art Williams (murdered, tortured and now jailed), Bobby Seale (jailed).

These are the big, famous names or the members of the relatively large and well-known Black Panthers.

But there are many others, including the Black Panthers, who are not famous but are important.

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centrism and try to imagine how a black person might look at what's happening.

We look at each of these police attacks as a unique case, just as we look at Song My as an "isolated incident." It doesn't occur to us that a black man might see a pattern in what's going on.

He will remember the Marcus Garvey liberation movement of the 1920s and the Black Muslim movement of the 1950s, both important and promising efforts of the political organization of the urban black poor by blacks themselves without hidden white financial support and control. Both movements were smashed by the white government.

#### GUNS

We whites buy the Los Angeles police department's explanation of the attack the other day on the grounds that the Panthers in the apartment had guns and fought back.

A black person might remember the firebombing attack launched by the LAPD in 1933 against the Honorable Elijah Muhammad's temple there. The assault, also near dawn, included firing nobody knows how many rounds of machine-gun ammunition in the place. When it was over, no guns were found.

You don't have to be a fanatic or a Communist or an irresponsible militant to conclude that if the police are going to shoot you with machine-guns, if you're threatened, you'd do as well to try to defend yourself.

In fact, a non-white person often decides, after comparing the two sides, that it's better to defend himself than to be defended by the police.

So, he will read this article, the writer is encouraging him to pick up gun and start protection. He is not. He is an absolutely safe, non-violent man and if he finds that he is again the target of the firing of the LAPD, he will have a rifle, like W. C. Fields, and there is his guarantee that he will never be shot again.

We will do little people, when we're in a serious jam, we just ourselves a lawyer, go to court and we sue. Didn't people don't have men-

*My Name Is "Judy"*      *Surprise Her with a...*

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